



VOL. XXI.]

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1811.

[NUMBER 985.]

It has been Resolved, that all Advertisements which appear under the Signature of the Secretary to Government, or of any other Officers of Government properly authorized to publish them in the BOMBAY COURIER, are meant, and must be deemed to convey official Notification of the Board's Orders and Regulations, in the same manner as if they were particularly specified to any Servant of the Company, or others to whom such Orders and Resolutions have a Reference.

BOMBAY CASTLE, 21st SEPTEMBER, 1792.

JOHN MORRIS, SECRETARY.

Government Advertisement.

Notice is Hereby Given,

THAT all applications for passages on Ships to England, are to be presented to the Committee of Embarkation, composed of the Master Attendant, the Senior Member of the Medical Board, and the Town Major.

Published by Order of the Hon'ble the Governor in Council,

J. FARISH,

Act. Sec. to Govt.

BOMBAY CASTLE,

16th July 1811.

Government Advertisement.

THE Public are hereby informed, that Packets are now open, at the General Post Office, for the reception of Double, and Single Postage Letters, to be conveyed to England, by the H. C. Extra Ship Carmenthen.

J. ELPHINSTON,

Post Master General.

BOMBAY CASTLE,

General Post Office,

16th July 1811.

ADVERTISEMENT.

In the Goods of D DABHOY CO- WASJEE deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

THAT Probate of the last Will and Testament of DADABHOY CO- WASJEE of Bombay Parsee Inhabitant, deceased was this day granted by the Honorable the Court of the Recorder of Bombay to MONACKVOW the widow of the said DADABHOY COWASJEE.

All persons concerned are hereby apprized thereof.

MORGAN,

PROCTOR.

Bombay, 13th July 1811.

Baxter Ferrar & Co.

On MONDAY next the 22d Instant,

WILL BE SOLD

BY PUBLIC AUCTION,

At their Rooms,

IN MEADOWS STREET,

THE Wearing Apparel and Effects of a Gentleman deceased amongst which are the Encyclopedia Britannica, and Collection of other Books.—Also on the same day will be Sold about 10 Casks of Rejected Beer, some Bottled Beer &c. &c. &c.

Bombay 20th July 1811.

FOR SALE,

AT THE

Courier Office,

THE

INDIAN KALENDAR

FOR THE YEAR

1811.

THE COURIER.

BOMBAY.

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1811.

Advices have been received from Malacca till 21st of May and from Penang to the end of May, by which it appears that both divisions of the expedition from Madras had failed from the latter place to their rendezvous at Malacca; where in all probability the whole force would be collected before the middle of June.

With respect to the enemy's intelligence, we have received of General Dandael's having manifested a disposition, in his communications with the Senior officer of our blockading squadron, to entertain propositions for a capitulation. He has prepared to defend Britenzong, a port about 8 leagues from Batavia, where he has carried all his magazines, military stores and merchandize, and has a force of about 12000 native soldiers. He has entirely dismantled Batavia. The Bantamers are in open revolt and ready to assist our operations.

As Sourabaya the enemy had collected all the stores he could convey from that part of the island and with a view, it is supposed of sending them to Europe.

There are no vessels of war at Java and the inhabitants are anxious for its fall to the British arms.

Our Cruisers are supplied with water and provisions from the coast without opposition or difficulty.

On the authority of the following Extract of a Letter from Madras dated the 5th July we announce the CAPTURE of another French Frigate commanded by the celebrated Sparrow, with a most sincere hope that the lapse of a few hours will bring a satisfactory confirmation of the intelligence.

The Bucephalus, Captain Pelly, has captured a French Frigate of 44 Guns after a well fought action: several of our Frigates have united, so that they will be able to give a good account of any number of French ships they are likely to meet. You will have received these accounts long ago from Bengal; it is needless therefore to say more.

We trust there can be no solid doubt of the truth of this news, but the silence of the Madras Gazette of the 6th July and of the Calcutta paper of the 27th June, which only says that the Bucephalus, & Samarang were cruising on the 12th April off Batavia creates a little suspense regarding it. But it is not improbable that the letter from Madras which is a long one, may have been sent from that place on the 6th, though it is dated on the 5th July, and we may reasonably imagine that the writer of it may have formed an erroneous conception respecting the time it would require to convey the intelligence from Bengal to Bombay.

Since writing the above we have learnt that this intelligence was received at Madras in a letter from Penang dated the 22d May, but that several letters of a subsequent date, particularly one from an officer high in command dated 28th May, are totally silent on the subject. We are therefore apprehensive that the hopes we originally entertained on the subject will prove to be fallacious.

SESSIONS.

The Sessions of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol delivery for this place, were holden on Saturday last before SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH, and his Associates and continued till late on Tuesday evening following.

The Grand Jury consisting of the undermentioned Gentlemen having been sworn in, The Recorder proceeded to deliver to them a charge which was rendered more than ordinarily interesting by the notification, it contained of his approaching departure for his native country.

We have it in our power most fortunately to give a faithful outline of this impressive and eloquent charge, and we have also been gratified by a perusal of the letter written by the Grand Jury on the occasion, which we are enabled to insert, with the Recorder's answer.

GRAND JURY.

WILLIAM TAYLOR MONEY, Esq. Foreman.
N. H. Smith, Charles Shubrick,
W. B. T. Crozier, George Lukin,
Thomas Turner, T. H. Wilkinson,
Richard Nesbitt, John Kirkpatrick,
Charles Keys, John Kaye,
Evan Lloyd, T. H. Davis,
R. E. Stephenson, John H. Pelly,
John Wedderburn, J. G. Remington,
Michie Forbes, John Lawrence,
Edward Taylor, Thomas Badden, and
Robert Suxpich, T. Riddock, Esquires.

The Recorder delivered the following Charge.

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY.
The present Calendar is unfortunately remarkable for number and enormity of crimes.

To what cause we are to impute the very uncommon depravity which has in various forms during the last twelve months appeared before this Court, it is difficult and perhaps impossible to determine. But the length of this Calendar may probably be, in a great measure, ascribed to the late commendable dilute of irregular punishment at the Office of Police; so that there is not so much an increase of crimes as of regular trials.

To frame and maintain a system of Police warranted by Law, vigorous enough for protection and with sufficient legal restraints to afford a security against oppression, must be owned to be a matter of considerable difficulty in the crowded, mixed and shifting population of a great Indian Seaport. It is no wonder then that there should be defects in our system, both in the efficacy of its regulations and the legality of its principles; and this may be mentioned with the more liberty, because these defects have originated long before the time of any one now in authority; and have rather indeed arisen from the operation of time and chance, on human institutions, than from the fault of any individual. The subject has of late occupied much of my attention. Government have been pleased to permit me to lay my thoughts before them; a permission of which I shall in a few days avail myself and I hope that my diligent enquiry and long reflection may contribute somewhat to aid their judgment in the establishment of a Police which may be legal, vigorous and unoppressive.

In reviewing the administration of law in this place since I have presided here, two circumstances present themselves which appear to deserve a public explanation.

The first relates to the principles adopted by the Court in cases of commercial insolvency.

In India no law compels the equal distribution of the goods of an insolvent merchant. We have no system of Bankrupt laws.

The consequence is too well known. Every Mercantile failure has produced a disreputable scramble, in which no individual could be blamed, because, if he were to forego his rights, they would not be sacrificed to equitable division but to the claims of a competitor no better entitled than himself. A few have recovered all and the rest have lost all. Nor was this the worst.

Opulent commercial houses, either present or well served by vigilant agents, almost always foresaw insolvency in such time as to secure themselves. But old officers, Widows and Orphans in Europe could know nothing of the decaying credit of their Indian Bankers and they had no agents but those Bankers themselves. They therefore were the victims of every failure. The rich generally saved what was of little consequence to them and the poor almost constantly lost their all. These scenes have frequently been witnessed in various parts of India. They have formerly occurred here. On the death of one unfortunate gentleman I have been here, the evil was rather dreaded than felt.

Soon after my arrival I laid before the British Merchants of this Island a plan for the equal distribution of insolvent Estates, of which accident then prevented the adoption.—Since that time the Principle of the Plan has been adopted in several cases of actual or of apprehended insolvency, by a conveyance of the whole Estate to Trustees for the equal benefit of all the Creditors.—Some disposition to adopt similar arrangements appears of late to manifest itself in Europe—and certainly nothing can be better adapted to the present dark and unquiet condition of the Commercial world. Wherever they are adopted early, they are likely to prevent bankruptcy—a very intelligent Merchant

justly observed to me that under such a system the early disclosure of embarrassment would not be attended with that shame and danger, which usually produce concealment and final ruin.—In all cases and at every period such arrangements would limit the evils of Bankruptcy to the least possible amount.

It cannot therefore be matter of wonder that a Court of Justice should protect such a system with all the weight of their opinion and to the utmost extent of their legal power.

I by no means presume to blame these creditors who on the first proposal of this experiment withheld their consent and preferred the assertion of their legal rights.—They had, I dare say, been ill used by their debtors, who might personally be entitled to no indulgence from them. It is too much to require of men that under the influence of cruel disappointment and very just resentment they should estimate a plan of public utility in the same manner with a dispassionate and disinterested Spectator. But experience and reflection will in time teach them that, in seeking to gratify a just resentment, against a culpable insolvent, they in fact direct their hostility against the unoffending and helpless part of their fellow creditors.

One defect in this voluntary system of Bankrupt Laws must be owned to be considerable.—It is protected by no penalties against the fraudulent concealment of property.—There is no substitute for high penalties but the determined and vigilant integrity of Trustees.—I have therefore with pleasure seen that duty undertaken by European Gentlemen of character and Station.—Besides the great considerations of justice and humanity to the creditors, I will confess that I am gratified by the interference of English Gentlemen to prevent the fall of eminent or ancient commercial families among the Natives of India.

The second circumstance which I think myself now bound to explain relates to the dispensation of penal Law.

Since my arrival here in May 1804 the punishment of death has not been inflicted by this Court. Now the Population, subject to our jurisdiction either locally or personally cannot be estimated at less than two Hundred Thousand Persons.

Whether any evil consequence has yet arisen from so unusual (& in the British Dominions unexampled) a circumstance as the dilute of Capital punishment, for so long a period as seven years among a population so considerable, is a question which you are entitled to ask and to which I have the means of affording you a satisfactory answer.

The criminal Records go back to the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty six.

From May seventeen hundred and fifty six, to May seventeen hundred and sixty three the Capital convictions amounted to a hundred and forty one—and the executions were forty seven. The Annual average of Persons who suffered death was almost seven—and the annual average of Capital crimes ascertained to have been perpetrated was nearly twenty.

From May eighteen hundred and four, to May eighteen hundred and eleven, there have been one hundred and nine Capital convictions. The Annual average therefore of Capital Crimes legally proved to have been perpetrated during that period, is between fifteen and sixteen. During this period there has been no Capital execution.

But as the population of this Island, has much more than doubled, during the last fifty years, the annual average of Capital convictions, during the last seven years ought to have been forty, in order to shew the same proportion of Criminality with that of the first seven years. But between 1756 and 1763 the military force was comparatively small. A few Factories or small Ports only depended on this Government. Between 1804 and 1811, five hundred European Officers and probably four thousand European Soldiers were scattered over extensive territories. Though honour and morality be powerful aids of law, with respect to the first Class and Military discipline with respect to the second, yet it might have been expected, as experience has proved, that the more violent enormities would be perpetrated by the European soldiery uneducated & sometimes depraved as many of them must originally be, often in a state of mischievous idleness, commanding, in spite of all care, the means of intoxication and corrupted by contempt for the feelings and rights of the Natives of this Country.

If these circumstances be considered, it will appear that the capital crimes committed during the last seven years with no capital execution have, in proportion to the population, not been much more than a third of those committed in the first seven

years, notwithstanding the infliction of death on forty seven persons.

The intermediate periods lead to the same results. The number of capital crimes in any one of these periods does not appear to be diminished either by the capital executions of the same period or of that immediately preceding. They bear no assignable proportion to each other.

In the seven years immediately preceding the last, which were chiefly in the Presidency of my learned Predecessor Sir William Syer, there was a very remarkable diminution of capital punishments. The average fell, from about four in each year, which was that of the seven years before Sir William Syer, to somewhat less than two in each year. Yet the capital convictions were diminished about one third.

The punishment of death is principally intended to prevent the more violent and atrocious crimes.

From May 1797 there were eighteen convictions for Murder, of which I omit two, as of a very particular kind. In that period there were twelve Capital executions.

From May 1804, to May 1811 there were six convictions for murder, omitting one which was considered by the Jury as in substance a case of manslaughter with some aggravation. The murders in the former period were therefore very nearly as three to one, to those in the latter in which no Capital punishment was inflicted.

From the number of convictions I of course exclude those cases where the Prisoner escaped, whether he owed his safety to defective proof of his guilt or to a legal objection. This cannot affect the justice of a comparative estimate, because the proportion of Criminals who escape on legal objections before Courts of the same Law must, in any long period, be nearly the same.

But if the two cases—one where a formal verdict of Murder with a recommendation to mercy was intended to represent an aggravated manslaughter—and the other of a man who escaped by a repugnancy in the indictment, where however the facts were more near manslaughter than Murder—be added, then the Murders of the last seven years will be eight, while those of the former seven years will be sixteen.

This final experiment has therefore been made without any diminution of the Security of the lives and properties of men. Two hundred thousand men have been governed for seven years without a capital Punishment and without any increase of crimes—If any experience has been acquired it has been safely and innocently gained.

It was indeed impossible that the trial could ever have done harm—It was made on a proved Principle of impunity or even lenity—It was in its nature gradual, subject to cautious reconsideration in every new instance, and easily capable of being altogether changed on the least appearance of danger. Though the general result be rather remarkable, yet the usual maxims which regulate judicial discretion have in a very great majority of cases been pursued. The instances of deviation from those maxims scarcely amount to a twentieth of the whole convictions.

I have no doubt of the Right of Society to inflict the punishment of Death on enormous crimes wherever an inferior punishment is not sufficient—I consider it as a mere modification of the Right of self defence which may as justly be exercised in deterring from attack as in repelling it.

I abstain from the discussions in which benevolent and enlightened men have, on more sober principles, endeavoured to shew the wisdom of, at least, confining the punishment of death to the highest class of crimes. I do not even presume in this place to give an opinion regarding the attempt which has been made by one whom I consider as among the wisest and most virtuous men of the present age to render the letter of our penal law more conformable to its practice. My only object is to shew that no evil has hitherto resulted from the exercise of judicial discretion in this Court. I speak with the less reserve because the present Sessions are likely to afford a test which will determine whether I have been actuated by weakness or by firmness, by fantastic scruples and irrational feelings—or by a calm and steady view to what appeared to me the highest interests of Society.

I have been induced to make these explanations by the probability of this being the last time of my addressing a Grand Jury from this place.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of my return to Great Britain which the state of my health has for some time rendered very desirable. It is therefore probable, though not certain, that I may begin my voyage before the next Sessions.

In that case, Gentlemen, I now have the honour to take my leave of you, with those serious thoughts which naturally arise at the close of every great division of human life, with the most ardent and unalloyed wishes for the welfare of the community with which I have for so many years been connected by an honourable tie, and with thanks to you, Gentlemen, for the assistance which many of you have often afforded me in the discharge of duties which are necessary indeed and sacred—but which to a single Judge, in a recent Court and small Society are peculiarly arduous, invidious and painful.

Two cases, more particularly worthy of notice, occurred during these Sessions. One was that of a British soldier indicted for a murder committed within the Portuguese territories at Goa and found guilty.

The prisoner was sent up from Goa to be tried here under the provisions of the 20, G. 3, C. 57 Sec. 29 which make all British Subjects amenable to Courts of Oyer and Terminer and Goal delivery and Courts of General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace in any of the British Settlements in India, for all crimes &c. committed in any country beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Straights of Magellan within the limits of the Company's trade.

A doubt having been suggested as to the jurisdiction of the Court, on the ground that the statute alluded to was repealed by the 33 G. 3, C. 52,

Sec. 67, the Hon'ble the Recorder, out of respect to the person with whom that doubt originated, directed the question to be argued on a motion in arrest of judgment.

We hope to be able to give the luminous judgment of the Recorder in favor of the jurisdiction in our next publication.

Sentence of death was passed on this man and he is to be executed this day at the Gallows on the Esplanade.

The other case was that of an Armenian Lady indicted for attempting to poison her Husband's mother. The trial lasted from ten in the morning till ten at night. The Jury after retiring for a short time brought in a special verdict which the Court having considered as equivalent to a verdict of Not Guilty, directed to be recorded as such—of this trial we hope also to give some account in our next.

On Monday the trial of two Soldiers of the fifty sixth Regiment took up the attention of the Court nearly the whole day; decency forbids us to mention any further particulars than that the two prisoners having been found guilty, were sentenced, the principal offender to be publicly whipped and pilloried twice during his imprisonment and to be kept to hard labor in Gaol for seven years and the other prisoner to be transported for life to New South Wales.

At the close of the Sessions the Foreman of the Grand Jury delivered to the Honorable the Recorder the following letter, to which the accompanying answer was sent.

TO THE HONORABLE,
SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH KNT.
RECORDER OF BOMBAY.

MY LORD,

We the Grand Jury, have learned, with regret, by the valedictory charge delivered, to us, at the commencement of these Sessions, that the connection which has, for seven years, subsisted between your Lordship and us, in the administration of public justice is on the eve of dissolution. But we trust that those splendid talents, which have rendered your Lordship so conspicuous among the eminent men of the present times, will soon be called forth for the public service, in a more extended sphere.

As a mark of respect we request you will do us the honor to sit for your Portraits, which we are desirous of placing in the Hall where we have so long presided with such distinguished ability, and with cordial wishes for your safe return to your native country we have the honor, to be,

Yours Lordships Obedient Servants,
W. T. MONEY,
Foreman.

Grand Jury Room.
July 16th 1811.

Bombay, 17th July 1811.

SIR,
I request that you will present my grateful acknowledgments to the Grand Jury for the address with which they have honored me.

Confident rectitude must often be the sole support of a Magistrate, whose most unpopular duties may be the most useful; but it would betray an unbecoming confidence to be indifferent to the deliberate and final approbation of a body of Gentlemen, most of whom have been long and near observers of my official conduct and who both from their private character and their public functions are entitled to speak in the name of the community.

However humbly I may estimate my understanding and how much fewer I must therefore question the justice of your commendations. I cannot doubt their sincerity. Flattery is not an English vice, and there can be no motive to flatter a person from whom nobody has anything to hope. I must then ascribe the partiality which has dictated these praises to your long observation of a quality which I may claim for myself without hesitation and without presumption; a most earnest desire to administer justice according to the dictates of conscience and humanity.

In that conviction I receive these praises as a higher honour than if I had presumed to think them more freely just.

As soon as I reach Great Britain I shall take measures for complying with the desire so honorable to me, which the Grand Jury have been pleased to express.

I have the Honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Humble Servant,
JAMES MACKINTOSH.

Protesting against the propriety of giving the harsh name of "animadversion" to an indifferent attempt at harmless raillery in our last Courier, we cannot help expressing our admiration of the ingenious mode employed by the Gazette to correct our presumption; a mode derived, probably, from the practice sometimes adopted by a tender hearted parent, who, unwilling to inflict the discipline of the rod on a naughty child, calls for the looking glass and tells the young offender to see how ugly he looks. The child, shamed by the reflection of his face, is at once hushed into silence. In like manner, our worthy brother, we suppose, expected, that we too, as soon we viewed ourselves in the reflecting surface of his paper, should stand abashed and corrected. We know not what he will think of the efficacy of his discipline on the present occasion, but we can assure him that it had the instantaneous effect of making us smile.

Be this however as it may, the method is certainly an ingenious one, though we are apt to suspect that it is not altogether new, but that our worthy brother, with a liberal zeal for improvement and a philosophic freedom from all prejudice against the source whence that improvement may be drawn has availed himself of the ancient maxim, that "it is lawful to derive instruction even

from an adversary."* For we have a faint recollection of having seen some of the Gazette's "animadversions" on the editorial fraternity of the other side of India, coolly and without any comment by way of defence or retort, reprinted at length in the very papers which were the subject of his lucubrations.



NAUTICAL CHRONICLE. AND NAVAL REPORT.

BOMBAY.

We have much pleasure in publishing for the benefit of our nautical readers, the following information contained in a letter from that most respectable officer, Captain Wainwright, of H. M. Ship Chiffonne.

On the 17th and 18th September 1810, lying in Haerlem Bay in H. M. Ship Chiffonne in a heavy gale of wind, which in the offing increased to a strong Tifoon, occasioning a tremendous sea, a breaker was discerned between Mendoza's Island, and the middle rocks.

The marks of the anchorage were as follows.
Ingeo Islands.—S. W. b. S.
Mendoza's Island.—S. b. W. to S. S. W. & W.
Middle Rocks.—South,

East end of Fisherman's Island } just shot in
Rock } with Fokar Point.

S. b. E. & E. distant 2 of a mile in 5 fathoms.
The Breaker appeared between the East end of Mendoza's Island and the middle rock; but of the cross bearing I have no knowledge. It must be caused by a rock probably small and deep, for the rock was founded for without success, and time did not allow of our sweeping for it.

I requested the Chief of the British Factory at Canton to direct the Officers of the Bombay Marine, employed in surveying the Coast of China to search for the rock; and until they determine its position, to keep the ship proceeding into Haerlem Bay by the middle of the Breaker, and the middle rocks, and Mendoza's Island to keep the Island close on board."

MADRAS.

ARRIVALS.—June 29, Ketch Deniah Dauler, Captain W. Spalding, from Colombo and Pambam.—30, Ketch Hope, Captain C. B. Greenrode, from Point de Galle, Cochin and Pondicherry.—30th July, Ship Europa, Capt. Joseph Always, from Mauritius left 27, May.

DEPARTURES.—The Arab ship Sallalah, Nacoda Mooleala, for Rangoon, 2d, July.—Brig Sea Horse, Captain N. Binfay, for the Mauritius, 3d, July.

Calcutta Intelligence.

THURSDAY, JUNE 27.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

JUNE 18, 1811.

Mr. William Loch, Register of the Zillah Court at Mirzapore.

Mr. R. Morrison, Register of the Zillah Court at Shahabad.

Captain A. Lyell, commander of the H. C. ship Amboyne, landed yesterday with accounts of the arrival in the river of that vessel, last from Prince of Wales Island, which she left on the 1st instant.

The Amboyne left Amboyne on the 24th of January last, as a cartel, with Dutch Prisoners of War, for Batavia, and left the latter place for Malacca on the 12th of April; at which time H. M. ships Leda, Bucephalus and Samarang, were cruising off Batavia.

It was reported that General Daendels had from 40 to 50,000 troops encamped near the City of Batavia.

On the 2d of April, the British Squadron took and destroyed ten sail of vessels in Batavia Roads.

The Baracouta had arrived at Malacca, with several Dutchmen who had surrendered themselves in preference to their being under the French flag, which was displayed in all the ports of Java.

The Right Honorable Lord Minto arrived at Malacca on the 19th ulting, at which date, we are happy to learn, his Lordship enjoyed the most perfect health.

Commodore Hayes, in the H. C. cruiser Malabar, arrived at Malacca, on the 13th ultimo.

It was expected that the expedition Fleet would sail from Malacca on the 10th instant.

The Countess of Harcourt, transport, from hence, had reached Malacca.

* We should have given this maxim in its original language, but we were afraid that our pedantry might have called forth another exclamation of Poor Audrey's. Oh! that the gods had made me classical!

On the 2d current, the Amboyne passed two ships working towards Penang, but did not make out what they were.

On the 6th instant, off Pulo Pera, the spoke H. M. ship Clorinde, having parted from the Bombay convoy for China, in consequence of one hundred of her crew being on the sick list, and was going into Penang.

The brig Bee, captain Hodges, of this port, and the ship Princess of Wales, were to leave Penang for Calcutta, shortly after the Amboyne.

Some extraordinary Reports have been received from the Eastward, by the Cape Packet whose arrival at this Port was noticed in last Mirror. According to these statements, General Daendels had received official notice of the incorporation of Holland with France; on which he removed all the Dutch national insignia, displayed the French flag at Batavia, Soerabaga and at all the other ports and garisons throughout the Island, and adopted various other measures in acknowledgement of the act of incorporation. The Dutch inhabitants are stated to have manifested extreme indignation at those proceedings; inasmuch that some of the principal persons of the Island, are reported to have fled and to have gone on board the British ships of war cruising in the adjoining sea.

Another report states that Daendels had recently made a communication to the Captain of one of His Majesty's ships cruising off Java in which he formally declared his resolution to surrender the Island, without opposition on the first appearance of the British Expedition. This report is inconsistent and incredible. Daendels, though a Dutchman, is a zealous adherent of Bonaparte, and a man very unlikely to fail in what he considers his duty.

Late letters from the Eastward, received by the Cape Packet, mentioned that the Bee, Captain Hodges, and the Brig Margaret, both belonging to the Port, disguised their vessels as Americans; and at the recommendation of Captain Owen, of the Navy, went into Bantam Bay. The Dutchmen came on board those supposed Americans without suspicion; and were desirous to trade with them. Soon after their arrival, they were boarded by an Officer from Daendels, who required their American papers, recommending at the same time that they should land their cargoes under an assurance from the General that they should be liberally treated. From appearances, a further continuance of such a policy would have proved no benefit. Captain Hodges thought it right to close his adventure without delay. He excused himself for the part allowed the Dutch officer to remain on board, and the vessels made the best of their way to sea.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1811.

The following report of the speech of the Advocate General, opening the prosecution against Mathew Laro, Anthony Blagrove, Esquires, and Biffonau Sing, Duraga of the Salt Golahs at Sultkee, will probably be deemed interesting by the majority of our readers. At the time we give the words, we wish it were possible to give an adequate idea of the truly dignified and humane manner in which they were delivered by Mr. Strettel.

"My Lords, and Gentlemen of the Jury.

"You will perceive that this is a cause of very considerable importance. Many Gentlemen have come to the Court this day from having a friendship and an acquaintance with two of the prisoners, whilst others have come, attracted by a natural curiosity and anxiety, to learn by what Repts they have been led to the commission of the offence for which they are indicted. If the charge be supported by the evidence, the first description must leave the Court with great grief, although they may have had conviction carried to their minds.

"The charge which is made, Gentlemen, a charge that is not attended by any harshness on the part of the Prosecution,—which I think, no case ever requires, and is always unnecessary,—speaks for itself. It is charge founded upon an alleged Conspiracy, between the two English Gentlemen at the Bar and a Native, in breach and trust of their duty; a violation of these, to have conspired to divert from its proper channels a part of that important commodity, which was entrusted to their care. The indictment lays the offence to be, first in pursuance of their conspiracy, having actually converted to their own use a quantity of Salt. The quantity laid in the indictment is comparatively trifling, and forms but a very small part of the Company's losses, which amounted within a short time to 45,000 maunds, or one lack and ten thousand rupees. This large quantity it is not necessary to comprise in the indictment, because the quantity mentioned there is amply sufficient for all the



SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1811.

(Continued from the last Page.)

We are next presented with his negotiations, to engage the Duke of Savoy on the side of the Emperor, in which he did not completely succeed. He observes of this prince, and the Duke of Lorraine, that "their geography prevented them from adding like men of honour." Alas, this powerful motive is too much extended in our times!

We shall give his account of the battle of Staffarde, as a specimen of the colloquial style of these recollections.

"The ministers of the Emperor had promised to let me have seven thousand men, to support Victor A-madeus. I knew the slowness with which every thing is decided and ordered at Vienna; and, eager to engage the French, whom I had never yet seen opposed to me, I went to join the Duke of Savoy at his camp of Villa Franca. 'You are come in good time,' said he; 'I am just going to give battle to Catinat.'— 'Then you must take care of your movements,' said I; 'he is an excellent general, and commands the old troops, the flower of the French infantry. Your's are new levies, and mine are not yet come up.'— 'What does that signify?' said the Duke; 'I know the country better than Catinat: to-morrow I shall advance with my army to the Abbey of Staffarde.' Instead of making the attack, however, we had to fight. The right wing, where the Duke was placed, was attacked in front. The French wing crossed marshes which were believed to be impracticable; and after having turned, and beaten ours, both their wings united, and fell upon our left, where I commanded. I made my retreat in as good order as I could; and in the rear-guard, composed of gendarmes, and the lieugards of Savoy, I was slightly wounded by a spent ball. I did not choose to remind my dear cousin of his presumption, or my prediction; but I endeavoured to repair matters a little, at least in point of glory; for, some time after, I had the good fortune to cut off a large detachment, which had pillaged Tivoli. It fell into an ambuscade, from which, hearing the French coming, who sung to the utmost stretch of their throats I fellied out to fall upon them. I folded my soldiers for treating the prisoners a la turque. But they had been so long on that service, that they had forgot that it was usual to give quarter to Christians."

In 1692, Prince Eugene prevailed on the Duke of Savoy to invade France, on the side of Dauphine, which, he says, would have been successful, had not the Duke been seized with the smallpox, in consequence of which the army retreated. This fact, we believe, has been little known, at least in its full extent. There are many traits of the Duke's infatigability which are extremely piquant; but they would occupy too much of that space which must be devoted to more interesting matter. Though constantly at war, and fighting with the most desperate bravery, it was always a very doubtful point, whether he wished to gain even the battles which he fought.

In 1696, Louis attempted to regain the Prince, and made him offers, which were indignantly rejected. This fact, we believe, is entirely new. So is the following:—While the Prince was on his march to attack the Turks at Zenta, a courier brought him a positive order from the Emperor to avoid a battle. He put the letter in his pocket, attacked the enemy, and obtained a signal victory; which is described in his energetic manner. On his return to Vienna, the Emperor sent to demand his sword; and put him under arrest. On the report that he was to be tried for his life, an insurrection took place in Vienna. He was enlarged, and sent to command in Hungary.

In 1699, he gives a sketch of his private life. "In this year I began my fine library, and conceived a passion for gardens and palaces. I bought, from time to time, some beautiful cabinet pictures, and some drawings very little known. I was not rich enough yet to form a gallery; and I did not like prints because others might have the same. I have never liked copies of any kind, or talents which consume valuable time. Some wind-instruments, marches, military or hunting airs, trumpet calls, or agreeable airs of comic operas, dispensed me from talking during dinner, or from hearing tiresome speakers."

In 1700, began his friendship with Villars, then French ambassador at Vienna, which seems to have been warm and sincere on the part of both these great men. Here follows one of the curious conversations, which, the editor informs, are written in the Prince's own hand.

"It is no fault of mine," said Villars, "if without stopping to quell the rebellion in Hungary, you insist upon going to war with us. I only wish, my Lord, that you would be persuaded to treat me, like those gentlemen, who turn their backs on me here, and who will do the same elsewhere, if I command an army."

"This," says the Prince, "was a folly à la Villars. You think, perhaps," he added, "that the Turks will take a part, because the Abbé Joachim has prophesied that the Emperors will have twins, one of which will gain the throne of Constantinople."—"I myself have no quarrel with you, M. de Villars," said I; "for in your correspondence, a little in the light French style, you have drawn my portrait with the hand of a friend; but there are people who complain of your imprudences; and the Court complains of having read in your despatches, 'We shall see whether the Christ of Leopold's Chapel will speak to him, as it did to Ferdinand II. It is there still; I have seen it with my own eyes.'—Even private men never forgive ridicule; judge of the effect which a sarcasm must produce on a sovereign."—"I have only supported myself in this country," replied he, "by singular reserve in conversation. But I am a little angry at you Austrians, who, among other stories, say that I conspired with Ragotz against the person of the Emperor."—"That is another piece of stupidity," said I; "it was owing to the recollection of this phrase in an intercepted letter, while you served with us as volunteer: 'I am an Austrian in the army, but a Frenchman at Vienna.'—There is much implied in that," said the Noddies. "There have been no conspiracies against our Emperors, they have never been assassinated. We have no Jacques Clement, or Ravallinac. Our people are not enthusiastic like yours; but they are more steady. There are scarcely any crimes committed in Austria."—"Some persons wished to persuade Leopold, last year, that there had been an attempt to kill him, because a ball had passed through

his hat, in hunting. 'Let them find the man,' said he, with his Spanish air; 'he is a bungler of one kind or other; he is dying with fear, or dying of hunger; give him a thousand ducats.'"

In speaking of the celebrated surprise of Cremona, the prince pays high compliments to the courage of the French; and intimates, that he was much dissatisfied with the conduct of his own troops. His account agrees very nearly with that of Folard.

Of the Duke de Vendôme, he uniformly speaks in warmest terms of eulogium. "The able, the intrepid, the amiable, the generous, the dexterous discoverer of his enemy's projects—sometimes indirect respecting his own—the affable, the indolent Vendôme!"—Such is the language with his supports, even respecting those great battles, in which he defeated this general. During Prince Eugene's blockade of Mantua, he threw up entrenchments round his camp, twenty feet high. "Who," says he, "would believe that I had learned something from the Turks, and that the Turks had learned something from the Romans? This practice they must have derived from some of those omnipotent colonists, like the Etruscan forms of vases and pitchers, which are to be found in every cottage."

He confirms the curious fact, of his having attempted to surprise the French army, by lying in an ambuscade with his own, on the spot where they intended to take up their encampment. This bold idea was frustrated, as is well known, by the accident of a French officer's mounting the dike, to gain an extensive view of the country.

In 1708, we find him, as War-minister, telling the Emperor most important truths. "Your army, Sire, is your monarchy; without that, you would soon be a vassal of the Turks, the French, or, perhaps, the Hungarians. Your capital is a frontier town. Your Majesty has no fortrets, on any side; every one is paid, excepting those who serve you. Make peace then, Sire, if you cannot carry on war; which it is apparent you cannot, without the money of England. What are your ministers doing, to take no advantage of the national hatred against France, and to embroil you with all Europe, even with your own subjects?" In the next year, the Hungarian insurgents actually entered the suburbs of Vienna, and endangered the safety of the court.

Leopold, he says, could never bear to hear truths excepting when he was afraid. The Prince now turned over Queen Anne and Marlborough to the Imperial interests, and began his great campaign against France. We shall give his account of the battle of Blenheim.

"With patience, and without fighting, Tallard and Marfin might have forced me to abandon Bavaria; for I had no other place than Nördlingen for the establishment of my magazines. But these gentlemen were impatient; and the Elector was enraged at the pillage which I had allowed Marlborough to commit, who, by that means, was entirely with me. We loved and esteemed each other sincerely. He was a great statesman and general."

"They had eighty thousand men as well as ourselves. But why did they separate the French from the Bavarians? Why did they encamp so far from the rivulet, which would have impeded our attack? Why did they throw twenty-seven battalions, and twelve squadrons into Blenheim? Why did they disperse so many other troops in the neighbouring villages? Marlborough was more fortunate than myself, in his passage of the rivulet, and his fine attack. A little steepness of the bank made me half an hour later. My infantry behaved well; my cavalry very ill. I had a horse killed under me. Marlborough was checked for a moment, but not repulsed. I succeeded in rallying some regiments, which had at first been shy of attacking; (qui d'abord n'avaient pas voulu s'engager.) I led them back four times to the charge. Marlborough, with his infantry and artillery, and sometimes with his cavalry, got rid of that of the enemy, and went to take Blenheim. We were all driven back for a moment by the gendarmes; but we ended, by pushing them into the Danube. I had the greatest obligations to Marlborough, for his alterations in the dispositions, according to circumstances. A Bavarian dragoon took aim at me; one of my Danes luckily prevented him. We lost nine thousand men; but twelve thousand French killed, and twenty thousand eight hundred prisoners, prevented them, this time, from singing the usual *Te Deum* for their defeats, which they make it a point never to acknowledge."

These rapid, but masterly pictures of great actions, are inimitable. They resolve many curious questions in tactics, when closely studied; while they make us almost partakers in the scene, by their general spirit and effect. But they occur too frequently, to be particularly noticed. For this reason, we shall pass over the battle of Turin, giving only the Prince's striking and candid acknowledgement at the close. "My good fortune would have it, that Marfin stayed to receive me, with his eighty thousand men behind the lines; if he had come to attack and turn me beforehand, I should have been a good deal embarrassed with my thirty thousand. Nor must we omit his remark on the noted Bonneval and Langallerie, whom he had promoted to the rank of generals in the Imperial service: 'I was sorry that they turned out ill; they pretended to be free-thinkers, who are almost always unsteady. The affectation of irreligion is, independent of its foolish impiety, a mark of bad taste.'"

In 1707, he meditated the invasion of France, on the side of London. "This," he says, "would have infallibly succeeded, had not two cursed cardinals, Grimaldi and Pignatelli, engaged the Emperor, in spite of the Duke of Savoy and himself, to undertake the conquest of Naples." Louis XIV. he observes, would have been much more mortified by the loss of Dauphiné, Langue-doc, and Provence. The absence of the Dutch fleet, in the Neapolitan expedition, saved Toulon. "Such," he exclaims, "are cabinets, parliaments, states-general, and coalitions!"

We cannot resist the temptation to translate the account of the battle of Oudenarde, in 1708. It abounds in curious particulars.

"The French had 100,000 men in the Low Countries; Marlborough had only 60,000. I received orders to march to his assistance. I pushed on my troops by forced marches, and rode post myself, fearing that a battle might be fought without me. Cadogan came to compliment me at Mechtrich. He told me that the French had surprised Ghent, Bruges, and Plafkendaal, and that I was wanted. I passed through Brussels,

where my interview with my mother, after a separation of twenty-five years, was very touching, but very short. I found Marlborough encamped at Aitch, between Brussels and Aloft, and, learning that the enemy had their left on the other side of the Dender, I asked Marlborough, on arriving, whether he did not intend to give battle? "It is my intention," said he, "immediately; and I feel with pleasure, but without surprise, that the same reflection has occurred to us both, that, without fighting, they must cut off our communication with Brussels. I should like, however, to wait for your troops." "I would not advise it," replied I; "for the French would have time to retreat."

Vendôme wished to oppose our passage of the Dender. He said to the Duke of Burgundy, whom had advisers inclined to march towards Gent. "When you tell Prince Eugene see that you wish to avoid an action, he knows how to force you to it." I saw this phrase in his justificatory letter, which he printed on his return to Paris.

Cadogan went to Oudenarde; and, in a few hours, threw a bridge across the Scheldt. "It is still time," said Vendôme to the Duke of Burgundy, "to countermand your march, and to attack, with the troops we have here, that part of the enemy's army which has passed the river." The Duke hesitated; stopped on the height of Garves; left time; wished to turn back; sent twenty squadrons to dispute the passage; recalled them; and finally said, "Let us march to Ghent." "It is now too late," said Vendôme; "you cannot move at present; in half an hour you will have the enemy upon your hands." "Why did you stop me, then?" said the Duke of Burgundy. "In the hope that you would attack immediately," replied he; "but there is Cadogan already master of the village of Hurne with six battalions. Let us draw up at least as well as we can." Rantzau began the attack. He overthrew a column of cavalry, and would have been defeated in his turn, but for the electoral prince of Hanover, who, in the charge, had his horse killed under him. Grimaldi ordered a charge too early, and unskillfully. "What are you doing?" cried Vendôme, who came up at full speed; "you are wrong."—The Duke of Burgundy has ordered it," replied he. "Ah! the Duke is angry at having been contradicted, and only thinks of contradicting others." Vendôme wished the left to charge.

"What are you doing?" said the Duke of Burgundy; "I forbid it: there is a ravine, and an impassable march." One may imagine the anger of Vendôme, who had passed over the ground a moment before. Without this misunderstanding, we should perhaps have been beaten; for our cavalry was more than half an hour in order of battle before the infantry could join. For this reason, I abandoned the village of Hurne, to send the battalions to support the squadrons on the right wing. But the Duke of Argyle came up, with all possible speed, at the head of the English infantry;—afterwards the Dutch, though much more slowly. "Now," said I to Marlborough, "we are at last ready to fight." It was six o'clock in the evening, on the 11th of July; so that we had still three hours of daylight. I was on the right, at the head of the Prussians. Same battalions turned their backs, on being attacked with unexampled fury. They rallied, and repaired their faults; and we regained the ground we had lost. The battle then began along the whole of the line. The fight was superb; it was one sheet of fire. Our artillery produced a vast effect. That of the French, by the uncertainty which prevailed in their army, from the confusion of the commanders, was very ill posted, and did little execution. With us it was very different: we loved and esteemed each other. Even Marthal Overkerke, venerable for his age and services, an old friend of mine and Marlborough, obeyed us, and fought ardently.

"As a proof of our good harmony;—affairs were going ill on the right, where I commanded. Marlborough perceived it, and sent me a reinforcement of eighteen battalions, without which I could scarcely have supported myself. I then advanced, and made the first line give way; but I found, at the head of the second, Vendôme on foot, with pike in hand, encouraging his soldiers. He made to vigorous a resistance, that I should never have succeeded, but for Natzmer, who, at the head of the Prussian gendarmes, pierced, broke the enemy, and gave me a complete victory. Marlborough purchased his success more dearly on the left, where he attacked in front. While Overkerke dislodged the enemy from the hedges and villages, Nassau, Fries and Oxentien pushed their infantry beyond the defiles, but were roughly handled by the household troops, who came to its assistance. I now returned my obligation to the Duke. I sent Tilly, who, making a great circuit, took the brave household troops in the rear, when they had almost snatched the victory from us; but at length it was decided. The darkness of the night hindered our pursuit, and suggested to me a method of increasing the number of prisoners. I sent drums to different places, with orders to beat the French retreat; and I placed my French refugee officers to call, on all sides, *Here, Picardy!—Here, Champagne!—Here, Piedmont!* The French soldiers fled in, and I made a good harvest of them: we took seven thousand in all."

We meet with a most singular avowal, on occasion of an interview with his mother, after this battle, and with a secret anecdote of that lady.

"The joy of revenge mingled a little with that of our victory: she was pleased to see the King humbled, who had quitted her for another woman in her youth, and had banished her in her old age. It is singular, that, when advanced in years, she married the Duke d'Urfel, without taking his name. This was unknown to every one. It could neither be a marriage of convenience or of convenience, but probably of idleness and ennui. We could not help rallying a little on the former devices of the amorous monarch, and his *Place des Victoires*." P. 82.

Next comes a most spirited description of the taking of Lille, with many expressions of esteem and pity for Vendôme, who urged the Duke of Burgundy, without effect, to attack the besieging armies. The Prince mentions, on this occasion, the story of an attempt to poison him, by a piece of paper enclosed in a letter, and comments on it with the most gallant spirit. "I am persuaded," that it was untrue; because, at Versailles, they were too generous, and, at Vienna, too devout."

We omit the brilliant, and even gay picture of the taking of the Citadel, to introduce one of the conver-

sations (peculiar to this book) with Marechal Boufflers, after its surrender. Prince Eugene said to him,

"If you could have been both within the place and without, at the same time, M. le Maréchal, and if there had been no other princes in France than M. de Vendôme, whom I name as such from my love of Henry IV, I should never have taken Lille."—"Do you believe in good luck, in making war?" said he; "I feel nothing in you but good management."—"If my management has sometimes succeeded," replied I, "it was partly because I had the good fortune to be opposed by bad generals; and that is good luck."—"The only kind of bad luck which I will allow," said the Maréchal, "is the want of opportunity; but a beaten general is always in the wrong, without some extraordinary accident; such as an order misunderstood, or the death of the messenger: he may then have some excuse; but there can be none for a general who is surprised and defeated. The ignorant alone make war a game of chance; and they are caught in the end. Charles XII. is not one of them; and I feel, by the news which I received this morning, that, while we are speaking, he is playing very deep."

In 1709, we find the Prince and Marlborough endeavouring to draw Villars from a strong position, by laying siege to Tournay; but in vain. "Let us go and take Mons," said I to Marlborough; "perhaps this devilish fellow will tire of being so prudent." The arrival of the troops of Tournay, however, decided our heroes to attack the French; and gave them the victory of Malplaquet, which has been so much discussed by the French military writers. We have the uncommon satisfaction of comparing the accounts given of this action by the opposing generals themselves, by referring to the Memoirs of Marechal Villars, written also by himself, and published at Paris in 1785. They agree in the principal facts; but, while Prince Eugene tells us, that he finished the battle by turning the enemy's centre after the defeat of the wings, the Maréchal informs us, that had not himself and Albemarle been carried off the field wounded, and two generals killed, the Prince would have been taken in flank and defeated, during this manoeuvre. But the French officer, who commanded on the right, durst not take upon himself the important movement of quitting his entrenchments, to attack the allies. During the lull which followed this victory, the Duke of Marlborough proposed to attack Villars, in his position of covering Arras. "I will wager," said Prince Eugene, "that you will find nothing can be done. But let us reconnoitre him." When the Duke had satisfied himself, he said:—"It is to let us go on taking towns." But this brilliant career was soon to terminate, by the secession of England from the alliance, an event, of which the illustrious author gives the following most improbable account.

Tallard, more dangerous in peace than in war, whom I should not have left prisoner in England, if I could have suspected that he would obtain credit there, made the Tories triumph, and crushed the Whigs. His attentions to Miss Matham, the Queen's new favourite, in place of the Dutchess of Marlborough; his address in society; his presents of burgundy and champagne to Right Honourable Members of Parliament, who admired them, changed the face of affairs in Europe!"

We believe that there has seldom been less purity of principle in English statesmen, than during the greater part of the glorious reign of Queen Anne; but we look upon this story as one of the common blunders of foreign politicians in judging of English affairs. Indeed, the illustrious author, who had certainly more means of seduction than the captive Tallard, afterwards admits, that he found this expedient for changing the face of Europe not very successful. He could not get the war renewed, nor Marlborough replaced, though he came to England on purpose; where, as he says himself, "Je carcassais beaucoup les gens en place. Je fis aussi des présents: car on achète beaucoup en Angleterre."

His farewell to the Duke of Ormonde, on his withdrawing the English troops, was severely ironical: "Well, Sir," said I, "I shall contrive to do without your eighteen thousand men."—"I must march them," said the Duke, "to take possession of Dunkirk, which the French are to put into my hands."—"I congratulate the two nations," said I, "on this operation, which does equal honour to both."

We now arrive at the decisive action of Denain, in which these two extraordinary men, Eugene and Villars, personal friends, yet active public enemies, were to struggle for the fate of France. Eugene speaks of the resolution which has been attributed to Louis, of perishing at the head of his nobility, in case of the fall of Landrecy; but he mentions it with doubts.

The Dutch deputies had a grand magazine at Marchiennes, which Eugene wished to remove to Quennoy: They opposed him, from motives of economy. This made him exclaim, one day, with an oath, when the conquests of Alexander were mentioned:—"He had no Dutch deputies in his army!"

In describing the action of Denain, there is a surprising coincidence between the accounts of Eugene and Villars; but there is so much simplicity and moderation in that given by the Prince, that we cannot forbear translating it completely.

"I have spoken of my vexation at having the magazines, on which the continuance of the siege depended, left at Marchiennes. Two leagues in extent were too much for the Dutch corps; though, without the defection of the English, they might have been defended. Now, observe a proof of the talents of Villars, and a sort of fault which I must impute to myself. To conceal a movement of his left to the Scheldt, with the greatest secrecy and celerity, he drew my attention, with his right, to Landrecy, as if he meant to attack the lines of contravallation. He threw back, at once, the right upon his left wing, which, during the night, had easily made bridges, because the Scheldt is not wide there. The two wings, united, advanced, unknown to the Earl of Albemarle, who tried, in vain, with his cavalry, to repulse those who had passed. At the first cannon shots, I marched to support him, with a large detachment of dragoons, on full trot, to make them dismount, if necessary, followed by my infantry in a quick march. The cowardice of the Dutch rendered my attempt fruitless. Had they only held out half an hour, in the post of Denain, I should have come up in time. I had always calculated thus, at the work, supposing that I had been deceived by Villars's manoeuvres. I found only eight hundred men, and three or four generals, drowned in the Scheldt, and all those who had been surprized in the entrenchments, killed without re-

stance. Albemarle, and all the princes and generals in the Dutch service, were made prisoners, in trying to rally their troops. — — — — — I frequently take myself to talk for that day's battle, as severely as possible. I think, if I had placed twenty battalions more in the lines, which would have been necessary to protect them, Villars, who would then have been stronger than me, would have beaten me. Without the lines, posted as I was, I could provide for every thing. Could I suppose, that the difference of an hour, at the utmost, would be decisive of my glory, of the war, and of the safety of France? The artillery, with which the lines were fortified, ought alone to have given me time to advance. In place of being well served, it was weakly abandoned along with the intrenchments! My two faults were, that I did not laugh at the remonstrances of the deputies, on the subject of Marchiennes, and that I confided too important a post to their troops, the flower of which had fallen at Malplaquet.

At last, we find Eugene and Villars employed in the negotiations for peace, at Rastadt. Out of many curious notes of conversations, we shall only select the following, as strongly characteristic of the Prince, and as very remarkable in the concluding hint.

"You will be angry with me for what I am now going to say," said Villars. "Do you know the foolish story which has been told, to account for the loss of the battle of Denain?" "Let me hear it," said I; "it will amuse me." "Well," it was said that you had a mistress at Marchiennes a very handsome Italian dancer; and that you had troops in the post, only to guard you in your nightly visits."—I laughed with him a good deal at this story. It would have been rather too late for me to have caught this foolish fever, called love. I had better have taken it at Venice, or Vienna, when we were young. "You attended to ladies, I remember, but it was without loving, or being loved by them; for they like a Frenchman only by way of fashion."—"Nay, that often happens to us in France, too," replied he; "it is a fashion there too—even an employment—when we have nothing else to do: indeed, it is almost necessary to have our credit. Consider what they have said of M. de Vendome, and of Calinaut." p. 121

The gross, and almost brutal manners of Vendome might give rise to the horrible suspicions here alluded to; but, with respect to Calinaut, it is to be hoped, that the malignity of the pretended devotees, with whom the French court then swarmed, was the only source of such imputations.

The death of Louis XIV. awakened that sensibility which is so forcibly expressed by Eugene, in these pages: "I own," says he, "it produced the same effect on me, as the fall of a noble old oak uprooted by a tempest—he had stood so long!" Though Eugene had eagerly endeavoured to accomplish the fall of the monarch, he was softened by the fate of the man. Such is the caprice of our nature; but in this instance it is adorned with heroic feelings.

On the battle of Belgrade, which Eugene gained by fortunate rashness, he has given a severe self-censure; for he admits, that he might have been ruined, if a flood, or the enemy's cannon, had destroyed his bridges. He deprecates, therefore, both praise and blame, at his manuscript should come to light;—but he adds, "that, after all, he might not have fared so well, but for the protection of the Virgin Mary, according to the opinion of Charles VI., his confessor, and the pious souls who wished him at the devil; for the battle was fought on Assumption-day."

For several years after the treaty of Passarowitz, we find him engaged in directing the internal affairs of the empire, and in combating the wretched bigotry which prevailed at court, among *les trop bons catholiques, et les grosses perruques*.

In recounting his interview with the King of Prussia (father of the great Frederick), Eugene has declared himself decisively against the fopperies which have since but too often passed for military knowledge. "The King," he says, "thought of military affairs only; but they were nothing more than parades, exercises, short jackets, little hats, and tall men." He adds, "I had succeeded too well by great manoeuvres, to trouble myself about wheeling to the right and left, or the manual exercise."

It is impossible to read, without admiration, his prophetic observations, made to avoid a war with France, in 1733. "The Russians are too distant to aid us:—Before they could come up, the empire and Italy would be invaded. Let us remember the infatigability of England in my younger days: her commercial policy is always hearkening at the doors of Parliament. The English, just, noble, upright, generous as individuals, are exactly the reverse on the score of their country."

His dissuasions were useless, however disinterested. "For myself," says he, "I love war; and I wished, in this respect, for a death like Turenne's." This sentiment is still more strongly expressed, on occasion of the death of the Duke of Berwick by a cannon-shot. "I was envious of it; and it was the first time in my life that I had been so." Again we meet with it, in describing his feelings on quitting the army, after the taking of Philipburgh. "I can scarcely express my pain, on taking leave of my army. It was most dismal.—One must be an old soldier, to know what it is to bid a last farewell to such brave fellows, whom one had left to fight to face death, which I would gladly have found myself, in a happy manner, quick and glorious. It is the only good fortune which God has refused me. With tears in my eyes, I gave up the command to the Duke of Wirtemberg."

It is astonishing that the advice given by the Eugene, to fortify Lintz, after the loss of Philipburgh, was never attended to. The consequences have been too deeply felt.

The latter part of these Memoirs, in which he complains too much of the decline of his credit at court, indicates something of the infirmity of old age; but still it is the decay of a great man. We leave to the reader's own reflections, at this momentous period, the following curious speculations, thrown out to Count Sinzendorf, in familiar conversation. "The face of Europe changes, like that of a plain or a mountain, by the accidents of light and shade. It is said, such a kingdom is the natural enemy of another. By no means.—If they are in contact, their friendship should be obtained; if not, their alliance, to defend themselves against the ambition of some more remote power.—Why, after the peace of Rastadt, did we not unite sincerely with France? The party which had opposed France, in England, had been overpowered; we should have saved many millions of money, and thousands of lives. When we cannot dictate, we should think of avoiding submission. But what is it which we call the politics of a court, and reasons of state? The personal interests of ambition, or vengeance of a man in power. This last motive, Count, for instance, in looking into myself, I believe has operated a little too much upon me, as well as the first; and a desire of power and riches gave a little bias to Marlborough."

The end of this remarkable volume exhibits manner of Eugene's personal character;—his confidence in the prayers of old dragoons, in preference to those of old ladies and priests;—his confessions of faults, humorously tinged with military enthusiasm; for example—that he had sometimes spoken ill of his neigh-

bour, but he could not help it—when he was obliged to say, such an one is a coward—such an one is a rogue; that he was sometimes in a rage; but, who could help swearing, on seeing a general, or a regiment, who do not do their duty, or an adjutant who does not understand an order? His attachment to his religion was sincere and deep-rooted; but the superstition of the Court of Vienna, and the frivolous impetuosity of the French, preserved him from extremes. He expects the termination of life with tranquillity; considering the past as a fine dream. After all these religious and moral reflections, he adds, that if there were a company of French players at Vienna, he would go to see *Absalon, Esther* and *Polixene*. His physician, Dr. Carelli, takes care to prolong his life, by supporting the radical moisture, which was a little dried up at 72. We are forcibly reminded of Sterne's uncle Toby by many of these passages; especially when he observes, that he employed 1500 workmen in his gardens and palace, during a year of scarcity, because that was useful to the town. He concludes his history abruptly, to get on horseback, he tells us, to see a function which was coming to his menagerie.

We close this volume, with a mixed sensation of admiration and dislike; and with reflections a little more serious than the lightness of its tone many seem to render suitable. After retracing the various important actions in which this great warrior was engaged, and the influence of his activity on the face of Europe, the moralist will feel peculiar satisfaction in deducing the humiliation and public misfortunes of Louis XIV. from his private vices, which provoked the enmity of the mother and the son. It may be an useful lesson to humble individuals, and show them, that the greatest plenitude of earthly power does not exempt the possessor from even the temporal evils attendant on immortality; and if he extend his view to the unequal and ill-starred alliances of that monarch's children (*amours des chambrières*, as Eugene terms them), as they are developed in the letters of Madame de Baviere, it will be found that his domestic comforts were poisoned from the same source. The decay of the French military power in the feeble reign of his successor, may be easily traced—to the despotic acts of Louis XIV. who was a tyrant in the minutest points of his government,—to his dread of the influence of deserving generals,—and to the umbrage which he felt from the shadow of independence, preserved in the routine of promotion in the army. As he brought every rank of officers into almost immediate dependence on himself, by abolishing the ancient regulations, a spirit of servility, and a disregard of professional knowledge and discipline, pervaded the candidates for military honours. Every general depended, for promotion or protection, on the favourite mistresses; and the progress of a campaign was regulated by the most wretched court-intrigues. This was the history of the French monarchical army, down to the reign of Louis XVI., when its final dissolution took place, under the well-intentioned, but inconsiderate, administration of St. Germain; and thus some part of the late revolution may be directly referred to the arbitrary changes effected by Louis XIV.'s jealousy of talents, and his desire to concentrate all power and influence in his own person. Yet, when we consider the immense perpetually offered to his vanity by the aspect men of the most polished nation then in Europe,—his early education,—and the solid greatness of his power, till he began to tamper with the constitution of his army,—we must acknowledge, that it would have required a most extraordinary mind, to have sustained such a load; and when we regard the narrow policy, the wretched superstition, and the cabal of devotees at the court of Vienna, it is evident that nothing could have preserved them from the arms of France, but the casual acquisition of the distinguished foreigner whose work we have been considering.

Upon the whole, we conceive, that the perusal of these Memoirs will afford a very high gratification to the lovers of anecdote, of smart writing, and of condensed good sense. To the student of history and of military tactics, they will not be less interesting; but they will grievously afflict the sentimental philanthropist; and certainly tend rather to depress than to exalt those hopes which an enlarged philosophy perpetually suggests, as to the progressive advancement of human virtue and happiness. In our horror at the scenes of misery and oppression that are passing before our own eyes, we are apt to imagine, that they are without example in the days that are past;—that there was less wanton cruelty, less unprofitable slaughter, less disdain of the rights and feelings of mankind, in former conquerors, and former wars;—that what we ourselves have witnessed is an unparalleled excess; and must lead, as the consummation and last extreme of human guilt and misery, to some new and better order of things.—Alas! it was always thus.—Warriors and military princes have been much the same from the beginning of the world;—the same love of havoc and slaughter,—the same disregard of the lives and comforts of private persons,—the same contempt of law and of humanity, when great power, or pretended necessity, enabled them to trample on them with impunity,—the same pride, tyranny and ambition,—with scarcely a distinguishable shade of difference, as to mildness or humanity, from the days of Sesostris down to those of Bonaparte!

This prince lived in the best and most polished times of European history, and was himself one of the least exceptionable persons who adorned that brilliant period. Yet we shall find in these Memoirs, if we would but sift them a little maliciously, repeated instances of almost all the atrocities which we sometimes impute to the invention of our present adversaries:—quarter refused—neutrality violated—pillage not only permitted, but commanded—contributions levied, and prejudices insulted—besides stratagems that border upon dishonourable falsehood, and carnage persisted in without need, and dwelt upon with all the gaudy of a sportsman or a butcher. We wish to say nothing against Prince Eugene, or in excuse of Bonaparte;—but it is sickening to see of what materials military glory is compounded;—and dismal to think how far more powerfully it attracts great talents, than glory of any other description.

Since the preceding observations were brought to a close, we have received a new Paris edition of the work to which they relate, in which several considerable variations are introduced, without any authority or explanation. The new editor prefixes a short advertisement, in which he boasts merely of having added a few foot-notes, a running marginal argument, and a table of contents; but gives no hint of any alterations in the body of the work. Without having collated the whole book, however, we can take it upon us to say, that the alterations are very considerable. The greater part of those we have noticed, are suppressions of what is contained in the former edition. Thus, the whole of the passage which we have translated at p. 43, about the Prince's collection of pictures, &c. and his preference of music to dull conversation, is entirely omitted in the edition which has since been transmitted to us. In the remarkable conversation with Villars, in like manner, which we have also given at p. 43, and 44, the passage relating to the Christ of Leopold's chapel, and the effect or ridicule on sovereigns, as well as that about Jacques Clement and Ravallac, and the superior morality of the Austrians, over the French, is entirely left

out of the new edition; and, a little further on, the singular anecdotes which we have inserted at p. 48 of Louis XIV.'s former liaisons with the Princess of Monaco, and her private marriage with the Duc D'Ursel, are also completely suppressed. In the same manner, we find the whole of his curious conversation with M. D. Boufflers after the siege of Lille, which we have translated at p. 49, about good luck in war, omitted in this new edition. The striking remarks on the English, too, which we have given at the bottom of p. 52, are retrenched in the same way.

When we find such important variations in the passages which we had actually extracted, it is natural to suppose that there must be many more in the other parts of the work. We have not had time to compare the two copies with any sort of accuracy; but, in merely glancing them over, have been struck with the following. At p. 87 of the first Paris edition, the Prince having forcibly violated the neutrality of the state of Venice, talks in this light way of the circumstances. "C'est là le cas de lacher le grand mot de *circumstances imperieuses*, de mal entendu, et de l'incertitude d'un ascendant général dans un République—et je n'y manquais pas," the whole of which is left out in the new impression. At p. 75 of the first edition, there is a full more remarkable passage, which is, in like manner omitted in the new one. It is in these words. "J'ai toujours pris pour base de ma politique l'intérêt des gens à qui j'avais affaire; et j'ai détesté les flatteurs du cour qui disaient, 'Ces Princes sont attachés personnellement à votre Majesté.' Ainsi l'on boice l'amour propre des souverains, qui aiment autre chose qu'on leur dit. Tout va bien—au mieux!—ou va s'écraser." At p. 100 of the first edition, there is also the following passage which the last editor has been pleased to suppress. "Je lui prouvai" (he is speaking of Frederic William of Prussia) "que depuis Pulova il n'y avait plus de Charles XII., et qu'il était prisonnier chez ses amis les Turcs. J'en états fâché, car il ne pouvait pas être un Gustave Adolphe, qui faisait trembler l'Empire; mais je voulais qu'on empêchât celui de Russie de s'agrandir, et je regardais le Suède comme un contrepoids pour l'équilibre de l'Europe." At p. 120, there is another passage about the French military character, which does not appear in the last edition; and at p. 148, a severe attack on the influence allowed to kept mistresses, valets and grooms, in the French court, which is suppressed in like manner. To make amends, we have, at p. 169 and 299 of the new edition, two lively paragraphs about the abuses and the uselessness of domestic espionage, which are not to be found in the former; and at p. 217 a whole page about counsels of war and court flatterers, to which there is nothing corresponding in the copy we have used in the preceding review.

We cannot tell what to make of this variations. To speak candidly, we do not see what interest or feeling of Bonaparte's could be served, either by the suppressions or the interpolation. The latter are in the spirit of freedom, as well as in the style of the rest of the work; and though the former may be supposed to be dictated by a jealousy for French honor, or royal dignity, yet it is difficult to ascribe them to this cause, when we find so many passages far more exceptionable allowed to remain. The arrogance of Louis XIV., the desolation of the Palatinate, and the infatigability and levity of the French character, are spoken of without reserve in fifty places of the new edition. One thing, however, is certain, that those variations cannot have been introduced by accident or neglect; and that they afford a new and striking proof of that unprecedented selfishness in the Parisian press, which renders necessary to watch over all their productions with the most unceasing jealousy.

VARIETIES.

REMARKABLE EVENT.—A letter from Kingston, in Jamaica, dated August 10, 1794 reports the following remarkable circumstance:—"A vessel which lately arrived here from America with a cargo of horses, &c. laboured under such very bad weather and contrary winds on her passage, that the master was reduced to the necessity of lightening her, by ordering some of the live stock to be thrown overboard; among them was a white horse, who, possessing more strength, courage, and agility, than his companions, actually buffeted the waves for two days, kept company with the vessel through a sea tremendously heavy, and, at the expiration of that time, the weather then moderating, was retaken on board, and brought safe into port, where he is now alive and well."

The following account is given of the splendor and luxury in which Madame Bonaparte lived before she was Empress:—"Madame Napoleon has four distinct established wardrobes, different diamonds, &c. for travelling, for the Thuilleries, for St. Cloud, and for Malmaison; and though she cannot reside but in one place at the same time, in the Thuilleries, as well as at St. Cloud and Malmaison, four changes of furniture, &c. are always ordered for the same period. At St. Cloud she has, at the expense of six thousand Louis d'ors, improved the bathing cabinet of the late unfortunate Queen. By touching certain springs, she can command what perfumes her caprice demands, to mix with the water; the reservoirs always containing, for fifty Louis d'ors, the finest odours and best perfumed waters. By handling other springs, she commands the appearance of drawings or pictures, elegant or voluptuous, gay or libertine, as her fancy desires. When she wishes to leave the bath, at the signal of a bell, she is by a mechanical invention, lifted, without moving herself from the bathing machine, into an elegant moderately warm and perfumed bed, where she is dried in two minutes; and from which she is again lifted and laid down upon a splendid elastic sofa, moved, without her stirring, by another piece of mechanism, into an adjoining cabinet for her toilet, of which the furniture and decorations cost 100,000 livres. For the improvements only of her luxurious though less expensive bathing cabinet at the Thuilleries and at Malmaison, the French Republic has paid two hundred thousand livres. To show her pretensions to equality with Empresses and Queens, Madame Napoleon broke and ordered at Brussels, two magnificent lace gowns, made after the pattern of one presented by the confident Belgians to the model of her sex, her Consular Majesty. One of these gowns was destined for the Empress of Russia, and the other for the Queen of Prussia. The former, report says, has, to the great humiliation of Madame Napoleone, been declined; but the French republicans do not doubt, but that the latter has been accepted, because they remember perfectly well that the Queen of Prussia presented at Berlin, in 1790, to Bonaparte's emulatrix, Duroc, a scarf of the Prussian guards, and her Majesty cannot therefore refuse a gown of honour offered from the amiable wife of Duroc's master."

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purposes of Public Justice. The second is for a Conspiracy; and, if they did conspire it was clearly for the purpose of betraying their duty.

"You will be told that this forms, in point of Law, a crime of the first magnitude. It is unnecessary to call the evidence of Witnesses to this latter charge, because you, Gentlemen, are called upon to say if they are Guilty or not Guilty; and whether they, in pursuance of their conspiracy, converted all or any part of the Salt to their own use; and you are called upon to say, if they did not so convert it, whether they are then Guilty of the Conspiracy, and the intention. This I say, Gentlemen, is what you have to try.

"The monopoly of Salt vested in the East India Company is with a view to the public advantage. It is productive of an income of a crore of rupees annually; and any deficiency in this Revenue must be made good by some other means upon us. This forms a great part of the Revenue of the country, and since the Company have had that monopoly, it has endeavoured to be particularly attentive to the characters of the persons whom they intrust with the charge. When they pitched upon two of the Defendants, they thought they had fixed upon men of that character and situation in life, which was their best security; when they were selected they thought they were secure from sustaining any loss through them, and, if any should be sustained, that it could not be through them,—much less did they think that they would be conscious to any fraud that might be practised, or that they would be participants in it. Unfortunately they have been mistaken.

"I mean not, Gentlemen, that you should, unheard, convict the prisoners; but I mean, as they are charged. It is for you to see whether the charge be supported by the evidence or not. Though the East India Company confided so much to the character and honour of the gentlemen whom it intrusts with such important charges, it is not so incautious or so ignorant of the frailties of mankind as to make them its sole guard. Two of the Defendants had under them a gentleman appointed head assistant at the Salt Golahs, and they had besides placed upon them every possible check. The course of delivering out the Salt at the time I am speaking of was this. The purchaser of Salt could not obtain it till there was first a *rewannah* made out, after that a pass, which bore the number of the Lot, the name of the purchaser, and the quality of the salt which was delivered out. This document the purchaser always carried to Mr. Bampton, who was the head assistant at the time I am alluding to, and he entered it on a Register kept for the purpose till the Salt was wanted; this also carried the name of the purchaser, who came for the Salt, the number of the lot, with the transmission by the purchaser to wherever he pleased. There are no less than three Salt Chookees, each distinct and at a distance from one another. When the *rewannah* was carried over the water for the Salt, Mr. Bampton then gave a Tally, which was carried to the European overseer; the number of the lot was written on the Tally, and in it was also contained the quantity of Salt, which was to be delivered out. It was a distinct mode for ascertaining the delivery of the Salt. It was then the practice to carry back this Tally, together with the *rewannah*, to Mr. Bampton, who delivered them over to the native officers and he deposited them in the office, where they were kept in safe custody.

When the transaction was finished, *Biffonuat Sing*, one of the Defendants at the Bar and *Duroga* at the *Silkeea Golahs*, indorsed the *rewannah*, which was first signed by himself. This indorsement on the *rewannah* now before me is a long one, describing the quantity of Salt delivered, the number of the Salt boats, the name of the person to whom the Salt was delivered, when dispatched, and its particular quality, with the name of the Manges of the boats. The *Duroga* next put the seal of Mr. Blagrave to it, which is a small one, and then presented it to him for signature. At each Chookee entries were made on the *rewannah*, so that it was impossible that any quantity of Salt could have passed from *Silkeea* without a corrupt connivance. Besides all those precautions which I have mentioned, Gentlemen, there are people called *Keepah Nuvvrees*, who besides the Tally of the overseer keep each of them a Tally on behalf of the respective Golahs. It was their duty to note down at the sale every mound of Salt as it was weighed out. These proved another check, and were kept for the use of the Superintendent. Of their Tallys or Tallys entries were made in books, but not intended as public checks; one however has turned out on the present occasion on a most important instrument. There was still another account, kept by the Sircar employed for that purpose by the Head Cooleys at the Golahs, of all the quantities which the Cooleys carried. All these safe guards, one would should think, made it next

to impossible that 45,000 maunds should have been converted to purposes injurious to the Company, or that the fraud should have been carried on without being checked, or discovered, by the Superintendent, or not known to the *Duroga*, who was always there. Gentlemen, there was one possible way of preventing a discovery, and that was a fellow feeling being excited amongst the whole of the department, whose connivance was necessary. It was the misfortune of two of the defendants to fall into this snare. Gentlemen, I verily believe that the intention of committing this fraud did not originate in their own breasts. I verily believe that the first step taken was on the part of an artful and a designing Native, to grasp at a mode to extricate himself from known difficulties. I sincerely believe this artful man to have broke through all things in order to obtain his own ends. It was immaterial to him whom he involved, provided his objects were effected. I verily believe, that it will appear to your conviction, as it does to mine, that the whole originated with him. Labouring under pecuniary difficulties he offered the plan to Mr. Law, who was unfortunately and unhappily tempted by the bait held out to him: he imparted it to Mr. Blagrave, whose concurrence was absolutely necessary, and unfortunately this tempting offer they were unable to resist. Gentlemen, they have almost promulgated to the public that they were not guilty of any crime, that there was no dereliction of duty on their part, because the Salt was not the Salt of the Company. This artful man, while he seduced them, thought proper to gild his crime; he would take care that no detection should take place, as he would take care of all the inferior members of the department, and would calm their consciences as well as shut their mouths. It was, he said, no injury whatever to the Company, because it was surplus Salt, it could do them no harm whatever. Gentlemen, there has always been a surplus Salt, sometimes on an average 20 per cent, sometimes so great as 25 maunds in the hundred; it has always been complained of as a great grievance, and the Company have used every endeavour to prevent any abuse in the exaction of it. This transaction is well known in the common course of business as *tare* and *tret* in gross commodities; it is an overplus given by the merchant to make up any deficiency or loss that may occur. It is not true, that it was never supposed to belong to the Company—it is a fact existing beyond recollection that it has always been recognized as the property of the Company. How fallacious was the idea excited by them to their own minds and feelings! They could not obtain their own sanction, but they recognized it as not the property of the Company, and that it was not stolen. Gentlemen, in the eye of the law, it was as much the property of the Company with due deference to the Bench,

[Chief Justice. There can be no doubt of it.] "as any other part of their property. I can say here that the Native has been true to his word, for every endeavour of Government to bring forward direct testimony of the fact has hitherto failed, such an influence has this man had, that not one of these witnesses can be produced. The Head Cooley kept his accounts daily; these we have got, and by these it will appear that upon the 6th of June, 1809, not less than 5,600 maunds of Salt were delivered out. Gentlemen, it was the business of *Biffonuat Sing*, *Duroga*, to transmit the Golah *teepas* to the Salt Office signed by himself: It will appear by the Golah accounts, in the Golah Office of that day, that only 2,600 maunds were delivered, leaving an excess of delivery unaccounted for of 3,000 maunds. Secondly, but it is not laid in the indictment, 5,250 maunds of Salt were actually delivered out on the 8th of June, while by the Golah accounts there only appear 3,250, the excess not accounted for being 2,000 maunds. Thirdly, by the Cooley's accounts, it will appear that 3,250 maunds were again delivered out, and there are 2,200 of that unaccounted for. It appears further from the Cooley's accounts, that the whole quantity of Salt carried into the new Golahs at *Silkeea*, from the 1st July 1808 to 24th October 1809, was 11,37,603 maunds, which is the amount that the Cooleys actually carried; by the Golah accounts, kept under *Biffonuat Sing*, the *Duroga*, defendant at the Bar, it appears to be 11,37,000, there being a difference of 1315 maunds. The head Cooley in his accounts charges only what is carried by the Cooleys. There is a difference, but that arises from a small quantity of the Salt having been left on the site of the old Golahs. This is a very strong proof of the veracity, and the accuracy of this man's accounts. This man, Gentlemen, was paid by the Company for all the Salt he carried into the Golahs from the boats; but though he was paid for all he carried, there is a difference, and a very material one to attend to; though I say, Gen-

tlemen, he was paid for all, yet he carried a considerable quantity for which he was not paid, viz. the surplus Salt, which was considered as part of the maunds, if it was 3 per cent. it was yet considered as part of the maunds. Like as the merchant delivered it, it was carried at an equal scale, being in fact *tare* and *tret*: No variation can be found between the Cooley's accounts and those of the Golahs, but when the Salt is delivered out of the Golahs there is a material difference, because it was always delivered out at even scale, no surplus Salt being allowed. Thus, by the Cooley's accounts, it appears 10,7491 were carried in, while to the purchasers there were delivered out only, 10,1946. By deducting the one from the other we come to the amount, making a difference in all of 45,475 maunds, the whole quantity lost to the Company in that interval of time. Gentlemen, in order to guard against every possibility of surprise, having procured the connivance of all those he deemed necessary, *Biffonuat Sing* was attentive to prevent a discovery through the medium of informers. There is always some person prying about such an establishment as the Salt Chookees, and by whatever motives such persons are instigated that is nothing to us. But that instrument, which he framed to the injury of the Company, has been turned against themselves.

"Gentlemen, I thus minutely state the case, both for you to have an accurate knowledge of it in all its parts, as well as to give the Defendants time, and the opportunity to make their defence. For, God forbid, Gentlemen, if they have any thing to say in their defence, that they should not be allowed to produce it. It was this Native's business to correct the *rewannahs*, but instead of being a check, he appears to have been the framer of the whole. On the 6th of June, 1809, there was issued what is called a *suaddah rewannah*, and the first delivery of Salt under that was of a 1000 maunds from Golah No. 8; this document accompanied the boats solely for the purpose of smuggling. The Manges and all were ready prepared for a smuggle. The *rewannah* was sent along with the boat without a date being mentioned. There was a Sircar ready, to show it to any one who might ask where was the *rewannah*, and to insert the date, which was actually done; for that of the 6th of June was made use of again on the 13th of the same Month. On the 8th a similar practice was employed by the honest gentleman whom we cannot prevail upon to come near us, receiving 1000 maunds on the 14th under the same date we can prove, but no doubt all the Salt that is missing has been smuggled through the same medium. We should never have known this, but for a circumstance that occurred on the 22d of June. The head Cooley will tell you that, on that day, *Biffonuat*, the *Duroga*, happened to be standing near him, and said, "What is this you are writing, a *rewannah*? what have you to do with *rewannahs*?" He then tears the *rewannah*, and says, "You have nothing to do with it." The other replies and says he will go to Mr. Blagrave, and complain. The other asks, "Who is Mr. Blagrave? Am I not Mr. Blagrave?" "I'll have you turned off if you say one word more on the subject." The Cooley inferred the quantities in his books, and had it not been for them, we should never have got the identical number. We shall all witnesses in our evidence to lay a conversation between *Biffonuat Sing* and the witness before you respecting daily frauds. There is in it a full confession on the part of the *Duroga* of frauds intended to be committed, and the emoluments in consequence expected to arise to himself, Mr. Blagrave, and Mr. Law.

"Gentlemen, it is true this might have been carried on without the actual knowledge of Mr. Law, the Superintendent; but it is impossible it could have been done without the privy of Mr. Blagrave. Respecting Mr. Law, we have, however, got documentary evidence. There is his own handwriting, exhibiting such extracts and conditions as shews he was a participator in their frauds. The Salt Office obtained information of certain malpractices, and ordered two of the defendants to go and secure the Golahs. Mr. Law went for that purpose: we have it under his handwriting that he did so, and that he had secured the Golahs. He, Mr. Blagrave, and *Biffonuat Sing*, went through the farce of sealing three empty Boxes, but leaving the essential one unsealed. It was formally recorded that it was sealed; but evidence will be produced to you that that was not the fact. *Biffonuat* and another man, named *Sham Dutt*, opened it and took away papers, which were carried to Mr. Law's apartment that are not forth coming.

"There are circumstances respecting Mr. Law which require to be accounted for. But there is another, strongly affecting both him and

Mr. Blagrave, Mr. Bampton, head assistant, was taken ill, and requested leave to be absent from his duty, which he obtained. In the course of some months he requested to be re-inflated, and called on Mr. Blagrave for that purpose; the latter told him there was no necessity for his attendance, that he had kept the books during his absence and would continue to do so, and that his attendance in the office was quite unnecessary. Mr. Bampton, alarmed, immediately saw, if it reached the Board of Trade that he was absent from his office, that his situation possibly would be deemed altogether an unnecessary one, and he might be struck off. He communicated these ideas to Mr. Blagrave, and was answered, in very rude terms, that he thought him very officious, and that he had interfered with the business of the *Duroga, Biffonuat Sing*, whose interest it was, Gentlemen, to keep *Bampton* out of the way. Astonished at the result of his application to Mr. Blagrave, he applies to Mr. Law: What does he do? Does he represent the circumstance to the Board of Trade?—No. No representation whatever is made. He says, "I cannot help you, and have had so many disputes already with Mr. Blagrave respecting his office, that I will not interfere." Mr. Bampton replies, "Mind I have always been ready, and am now, to perform my duty." *Bampton* is kept out of the office to prevent him from performing those duties for the interest of the Company, for which he was appointed. But, Gentlemen, there is another circumstance that affects the Defendant, Mr. Blagrave, particularly. During the whole time *Bampton* was in the office, the *rewannahs*, were given, as they were issued, regularly to the European overseer; but after that the tally only was returned without the *rewannah*. There is a great deal of other minute evidence, which I shall not enter into: and what I have stated has been thus minutely, for the purposes I have already mentioned. The next evidence, that of Mr. Ricketts, will be detailed very much at large. Mr. Ricketts at the time alluded to was Secretary to the Board of Trade. In the month of last October, a man named *Diron*, which whose character or motives we have nothing to do—whether he bears an honest character or whether his motives were honorable, or whether his intentions were wicked, provided the crime be verified, what are they to us? This man, Gentlemen, lays before the Board of Trade, that great frauds were committing at the Salt Golahs. Mr. Ricketts, on the 24th, sends a communication to Mr. Law, and requires him to go and examine. Mr. Ricketts, Gentlemen, will inform you that on the 26th October, the day subsequent to that on which the examination was supposed to take place, Mr. Law entered his room in great agitation, and opens by telling him that he was undone, and that what was going on was apparently very injurious to him, and if the inquiry was pursued he would be ruined. Mr. Ricketts not having the least idea of any criminality in Mr. Law, and supposing that he was only affected for his character, left any want of diligence should be imputed to him, tells him to compose his mind, and be at ease. Mr. Law, in tears, told Mr. Ricketts then privately the whole truth respecting himself and Mr. Blagrave. You will however, Gentlemen, be aware, that unless the conspiracy be established, this can be no evidence. You may collect the fact of the conspiracy from all the evidence before you; from the facts that such things could not be done unless they were all concerned, and if they were all concerned for one common end, then there can be no doubt of their being conspirators. Mr. Law said, his conscience would not let him withhold what he knew, and that with this candid declaration, he threw himself at his mercy, depending entirely upon him to save him and his family from ruin, and sooner than he would be disgraced by the discovery he would put a pistol to his head. That his guilt had been caused solely by his distresses, that his children were at that time going home, and that he had not then the means of sending them; that he had not considered it as the Company's Salt, as it was the surplus, and he would make any reparation in his power, and take an inferior situation, by leaving the department, and changing with Mr. Ricketts' younger brother. Mr. Ricketts expressed his great surprise at his madness, in telling him of the transaction. He told him he would not take any advantage of what he had been told thus privately, but that nothing would induce him to depart from his duty, and with all his zeal and industry, unaided by the declaration he had heard, as much as a Jury man, to detect the abuses at the Golahs. He said, but "I do expect the performance of the promise you have made, and that you will leave your present appointment and go to some other, for I cannot tolerate your continuing any longer in this."

The very next day, both Mr. Law and Mr. Blagrave appeared in the presence of Mr. Ricketts; the latter, in great agitation, told him he was prepared for the worst, that he saw no chance of either being saved, as every thing concerned them both; he said, that Mr. Law had said, that, from his knowledge of Mr. Ricketts, he was sure no inducement would operate with him to forego the inquiry."

"He next went by himself to Mr. Ricketts to endeavour to preserve Law. He then said that he was convinced, from Mr. Ricketts' principles, he would not disclose what he had heard. That since the former conversation Law had never been in the Office, and no inducement could operate with him to return to his duty; that he was acting like a madman. That Biffaut Sing, the Daroga, the principal person in the whole business, was the only native who knew of the transaction, and the business might be managed with ease, if Mr. Law and the Daroga would agree."

"This confession of Mr. Blagrave is one of the means for shewing the double life of the *rewannah*, and is a proof of the accuracy of the Cooley's accounts. They then both called, on the subject of the *Daroga Biffaut Sing's* confession of the frauds which had been committed, and offered to make good the Salt which was deficient. Mr. Ricketts still did confide, in their promises of quitting the appointment, and making restitution. Mr. Law said his conscience would not allow him to permit the *Daroga* to pay his share. Mr. Blagrave did express his concurrence, and went in person to get the *Daroga* to confess; but he had no object in view, and did not like written confessions."

"This, Gentlemen, is the evidence to be laid before you respecting the offence, the neglect of duty, and the malpractices of the defendants. Something has been said, and may be said, upon the nature of this evidence. In my mind Mr. Ricketts' conduct, however unfortunately it has turned out, ought not to be censured; he was actuated by a sense of the noblest principle to pity a fellow creature before him in distress; it was that sense, so finely depicted by Terence, when he makes one of his characters say, "Am I a man, and have I not the feelings of a man?" It is the same described by Virgil, in the words, "*Miseris succurrere dignus*!" and it was the same which made our Lord and Saviour weep over the city of Jerusalem. It was that which makes the stoutest mind shrink with terror at beholding a human being reduced to misery, at feeling the sudden and unfortunate

"Gentlemen, you know, a man could do no other than admit of the propriety of Mr. Ricketts' conduct. God forbid that a conduct, which flowed from the purest and highest sources of the human heart, should be perverted. He does not come here as a volunteer, nor is he swayed by resentment or personal injury. No, his line of conduct was fixed before that insult was cast upon him, which is notorious to all Calcutta. Had he come before, I would have deprecated it as personal resentment or personal injury. No, his line of conduct was fixed before that insult was cast upon him, which is notorious to all Calcutta. Had he come before, I would have deprecated it as personal resentment. But this conduct was taken, and he only exacted a performance of that promise, having gone a length that made it impossible to be denied. But to remove any impression that may remain, I shall beg leave to bring forward a young Gentleman, Mr. Plowden, whom I had indeed rather not call. Unfortunately there was an unguarded communication made to him, under circumstances never believed to be susceptible of public investigation. A communication as to between them of a nature very likely to arise, he not foreseeing his evidence might become material in a judicial investigation, and there can be no objection therefore to bringing him forward. The Defendants were to quit the situation, and Mr. Ricketts could not get an answer to a letter requiring them to resign in terms conciliatory, telling them to remain till they got another; but he did not like the manner they were going on, as there was nothing like the performance of the promise, and he would not permit them to be over a set of men, all in a conspiracy; for if these men were permitted to stay, there would be no termination to their speculations. This is, in my mind, a complete answer to what fell on a former occasion, from my learned friend that "Mr. Ricketts, in permitting Mr. Law to hold another situation, was letting loose a

Tiger." This is not the case, because the Salt Office admits of greater speculations than any other known in the service. If they had been permitted to stay, it was only giving them a greater stimulus to greater malpractices, enabling every wretch to say, "Stop us if you dare, you know we have you in our power."

"After all that will be laid before you, Gentlemen, if you have any doubts, you will have much to account for to yourselves. You will have to account for the conduct of Mr. Law and Mr. Blagrave:—you will have to account for Mr. Blagrave's conduct at the Golahs in not demanding the *rewannahs*: You have to account for his conduct in not permitting Mr. Bampton to return to his office: You have to discredit the Head Cooley:—But if you can account to yourselves for all these circumstances, I am satisfied. All I ask of you is a true Verdict, according to the evidence before you,—to help you God, according to your consciences and oaths."

The first Witness called was John Birch, Esquire, who proved Mr. Blagrave to be in the Company's Service, and that he believed him to be an Englishman, from hearing him often mention his friends as residents in Berkshire.

Thomas Mainwaring, Esquire, proved Mr. Law to be an Irishman, in the East India Company's Service. In 1808 he was Superintendent of the Western Salt Chokees; at the same time Mr. Blagrave was First Assistant to Mr. Law.

Mr. W. Wright Bampton, Head Assistant to the First Assistant at the Salt Golahs Salkessa. This Witness's evidence was very long, and included the several circumstances relating to himself alluded to in the speech for the Prosecution:—as also a minute account of the mode in which the Salt was delivered out and carried into the Golahs, &c.

Mr. David Moon, one of the European Overseers at the Golah, testified the difference which had taken place after the absence of Mr. Bampton respecting the delivery of the *Rewannah* and Tally.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 1811.

The Witnesses examined on this day were two natives, Rutton Goffe, Sircar to the Head Cooley at the Golahs, and Ram Needee, a native Mohurrer. The latter was introduced to explain some parts in the former evidence, which related entirely to the Head Cooley's accounts of a year and a half. The cross-examination of Rutton Goffe continued the whole of this day, and consisted of the examination of the Counsel for the Defendants, to be full of mistakes, and deserved no reliance to be placed upon them. Of this Mr. Ferguson produced several instances.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22.

This day the cross-examination was continued, for about two hours, when the Counsel for the Prosecution gave in a statement of the accounts, which the Defendants might make use of, and object to any mistakes it might contain. His examination was then continued on some general questions relative to the routine and custom at the Golahs. It was then concluded, and Mr. Mainwaring again called, who proved the handwriting of Mr. Law to several documents, the reading of which employed the Court till half past two o'clock, when they adjourned till Monday next.

MONDAY, JUNE 24.

The Witnesses produced this day were *Kooly*, the head Cooley at the Salkessa Golahs; *Shiek Habbab*, the mate Cooley; *Buffan Churn Doffe*, *Rewannah Moonhee*; *Shann Dutt*, a Mohurrer Writer, and *Juggernaut Dhooffe*.

Their Lordships adjourned at 3 o'clock P. M. to to-morrow, when the evidence of the Prosecution proceeds, commencing with the cross-examination of the last mentioned Witnesses.

This interesting trial is expected to last for several days to come. As soon as the proceedings are closed, a correct and detailed report of the whole will be laid before our readers with as little delay as possible.

On Wednesday afternoon the Judges being unanimously of opinion from the evidence before the Court, that the Offence with which the Defendants were charged, belonged to a different and higher species of crime, than that laid in the Indictment, the Court considered itself as bound to stop the trial from proceeding further. Their Lordships informed

the Jury, that as no part of the evidence they had heard could apply to the Indictment before them, it was necessary that they should acquit the Defendants, on this Indictment, charging them with a conspiracy. The Jury accordingly under this direction from the Court, instantly returned a verdict of not guilty.

Anthony Blagrave Esq. was then discharged from the Bar; Matthew Law, Esq. and Biffonaut Sein, were ordered to stand committed.

Madras Intelligence.

JULY 6th 1811.

APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. William Fleete Larking, Assistant to the Collector in Zilla Vizagapatam.

Mr. Robert Anderson, Assistant to the Register to the Court of Sudder and Foujdaree Adalat.

Lieutenant John Wade, of His Majesty's 30th Regiment to be Aid de Camp to Major Gen. Wilkinson, from the 8th March last.

4th Regt. cavalry Lieutenant Thomas Darke, to be Quarter Master, vice Newall.

Lieut. J. J. Meredith, to be Adjutant, vice Darke.

BOMBAY.

BIRTH.—On the 13th instant Mrs. Boyce of a Son.

MARRIAGES.—On Saturday last 13th instant, Lieut. Jefferson 1. Bat. 7th Regiment N. to Miss Anna Pemberton.

DEATH.—On Sunday morning Mrs. Dawe wife of A. M. Dawe Esq. Paymaster of H. M. 56 Regt. 2 Bat.

BENGAL.

MARRIAGES.—On Friday, the 21st instant, by the Rev. Dr. Ward, Lieutenant George Peter Wymer, 3d Regiment N. I. to Mrs. Johanna Maria Letton.

On Sunday the 23d instant, Luis Barretto, Esq. of Macao, Second son of John Barretto, Esq. of Bombay, to Miss D. Desouza, Eldest Daughter of Thomas De Souza Esq.

On Friday night, the 21st instant, by the Rev. Ter Joseph Stephane, Mr. Arratoon Muckertich Meligunze to the Relief of the late Mr. Muckertich Kalbofe

DEATH.—On the 24th March last, of a Jungle Fever at Namaveen, the Island of Madagascar, Lieutenant Douglas Fraser, of H. M. 2d Regiment.

MADRAS.

On the 24th instant, on Saturday last, the late Mr. John St. Thomas A. Strange, Chief Justice of a District.

DEATH.—A Native of the 1st Battalion of the 20th year of his age.

Lately at Coconada, near Samatpattan, where he went for the recovery of his health, Lieut. and Adjutant Henry Agar, of the 1st Bat. 16th Regt. N. I.

At Seringapatam, on the 20th of March, Lieutenant Golding, of the 2d Bat. 6th Regt. N. I.

At Seringapatam, on the 22d May, Ensign Porter, of the 2d Battalion 6th Regt. N. I.

At Seringapatam, on the 22d June, Lieut. Lewis of the 2d Bat. 6th Regt. N. I.

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of a powerful mind, viewing every object in a great and masterly style; disclosing the most secret causes of events; simplifying the apparent mysteries of Court intrigues; doing justice to neglected or injured merit; and throwing the broad light of genius over the obscurest parts of his career.

We are particularly struck, in this work, with the candour and warmth of heart, displayed by Prince Eugene, in speaking of the French Generals to whom he was opposed, and by the simplicity with which he relates his own actions, as well as the severity with which he judges his own mistakes. It is in this respect, perhaps, that we feel the strongest and the most humiliating contrast to the habits of modern times, when, instead of this chivalrous tone of magnanimity, modesty and candour, we meet with nothing, even in the narratives of great commanders, but specimens of that vulgar boasting, and degrading rancour, which used to be the characteristic of the lowest of the people. Of his friends and colleagues, the Prince generally writes, or rather speaks, with enthusiasm: for he appears to have dictated the greater part of the book to a secretary, in consequence of which, perhaps, it has all the ease and poignancy of private conversation. We consider it, indeed, as a treasure of anecdote, and shall make pretty free with its contents; though few of our readers will probably neglect to give the original a place in their libraries.

The editor of this work is a French emigrant who chafes to conceal his name; but he has given a full account of the manner in which the manuscript came into his hands. It was originally lent by the Princess of Hildburghausen, niece to Prince Eugene, and his heiress, to the Count de Canales, who contrived not to return it. From him it came into the possession of the Comte de Guasco, and, upon his death, into that of M. de Ferrant, who gave it on his deathbed to the editor. It was originally published at Weymar, in 1809; and several names and dates are given, by which the account here presented may be verified in all its particulars.—The work, however, bears internal marks of authenticity: It is written with great brevity, great carelessness, and great vivacity—in a tone of levity and occasional hardheartedness, that marks the man of the world—and with so much of the gay, familiar, and farcical manner of the genuine French wits, as frequently to remind us of the brilliant *Memoires de Grammont*.—But it is fair that the reader should now have a few specimens. The short Preface of the author, we think, is very characteristic.

"Some historians, good are bad, will probably take the trouble of entering into the details of my youth, which I no longer remember. At all events, they will speak of my mother; a little too intriguing, to be sure; driven from the Court, exiled from Paris, and suspected, I believe, of forcing, by people who were no great conjurers. They will tell, too, how I was born in France, and how I left it, burning with fury against Louis XIV. who refused me a company of cavalry, because, he said, I had too weak a constitution; and an abbey, because he pretended (on I do not know what stories respecting me, current in the gallery of Versailles) that my vocation was rather to pleasure than piety. But, however that was, no Huguenot, banished by the revocation of the edict of Nantes, ever cherished a stronger hatred against him: and when Louvois, on hearing of my departure, said, "It is all the better, he will never see France against,"—I vowed that I never would, except as a conquering enemy—and I kept my word. I have seen it on more sides than one; and it has not been my fault if I have not penetrated farther. But for the English, I should have given law in the capital of the Grand Monarque, and shut up his Maintenon in a convent for life!"

This personal pique against Louis XIV. is apparent throughout the work. In this slight manner did that politic monarch create his most formidable adversaries!

The *Memoirs* begin, in 1683, with a smart sarcasm against Louis, for his connexion with the Turks, in spite of his devotion; and with an account of the author's first military service at the battle of Vienna, where, he says—

"The confusion of the day can only be confusedly described. The Poles, who had clambered up to Leopold'sberg, nobody knows why, came down again like madmen, and fought like lions. The Turks, not knowing which way to front, having neglected the advantage of the ground, behaved, as usual, like idiots."

We omit some spirited pictures of different actions with the Turks, to quote a characteristic passage, respecting the assault on the Castle of Borda, where Prince Eugene was left to guard the Imperial lines.

"But this accursed Grand Vizier, quiet on a height, not daring to attack me, I do not know why, saw, with more coolness than myself, this important place taken and plundered before his face."

Again, after an animated description of the taking of Belgrade by storm, he adds, in his peculiar manner—

"Nothing could be more brilliant,—or more singular. How strangely one may sometime find amusement in the midst of horror! I shall never forget the appearance and grimaces of some Jews, who were employed to throw into the Danube about twelve thousand dead bodies, to spare the trouble and expence of burying them."

(Continued in the Supplement.)

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